

The distribution according to Vaurie BIRDS OF THE PALAEARCTIC FAUNA is Eastern Afghanistan (Nuristan and Safed Koh) and North West Frontier Province, eastward through the Himalayas to Bhutan and north-eastern Assam (Mishmi Hills) and neighbouring southern Tibet to south-western Sikang. [Pome and southern Chamdo to the valleys of Po Yigrong and Po Tsangpo, to at least the region of Showa Dzong, or to about 95° 30' E. long.].

25, INYA MYAING ROAD,  
UNIVERSITY P.O.,  
RANGOON,  
February 20, 1970.

TUN YIN

## 6. INTERESTING EAGLES IN WESTERN INDIA

While scanning through my notes recently I found that I had somehow failed to report three occurrences of interesting eagles in Kutch. One of them was Pallas's Fishing Eagle *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* (Pallas), seen by me in the cold weather of 1947-48 near Ganga Nāl (a tidal creek 3-4 miles west of Mandvi).

The second and the most interesting discovery was that of the White-tailed Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* (Linnaeus) in 1949-50 near Mundra (about 30 miles south of Bhuj). A solitary individual was sitting on an earthen mound when I saw it while trying to catch up with and collect a Houbara Bustard *Chlamydotis undulata macqueenii* (J. E. Gray) wounded by me. I do not remember whether I bagged the Houbara, but I now certainly regret my folly in not at once trying to collect the eagle at that time for only a single record of it in India is apparently made (Ali & Ripley, HANDBOOK OF THE BIRDS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN, Vol. 1, page 286). When I went back to the place where I had seen this extremely rare sea eagle it had disappeared and I failed to spot it again.

In December 1966 I saw an Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* Savigny. This too is a rare visitor in Kutch having been recorded by Sir Geoffrey Archer, but others, including the Sálím Ali<sup>1</sup> survey, have not come across it (Ali, BIRDS OF KUTCH, vide Appendix B—page 172).

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<sup>1</sup> Reported from Pung Bet, Little Rann and Kaira Dist. in 'The Birds of Gujarat', JBNHS 52 : 397, by Sálím Ali—Eds.

It was sitting right in the middle of the Bhuj-Mandvi road, approximately 8 miles from Bhuj, eating a hare which was left behind when it flew off as I got very near the bird in my jeep.

BHUI, KUTCH,  
March 31, 1970.

HIMMATSINHJI

7. NOTES ON INDIAN BIRDS—12. EXTENSION OF  
THE SOUTHERN LIMITS OF THE EASTERN STOCK  
DOVE (*COLUMBA EVERSMANNI* BONAPARTE)

The Eastern Stock Dove (*Columba evermanni* Bonaparte), a winter migrant to India, is known to occur as far south as Darbhanga, Bihar, in the east but on the western side it has not been noted south of Ambala and Ludhiana in the Punjab.

The Society's collection includes a ♀ No. 12903, obtained at Gwalior, C.I., by C. Marie on 9 March 1903, with the label marked 'Very large flocks on peepal'.

I also find in my notes on a three-day visit to Bharatpur, Rajasthan, in October 1951, a reference to some pigeons 'very like the Blue Rock (*C. livia*) but slightly smaller and all with pure white rumps. In pairs and in parties of 15/20 in open. Once put out of tree'. Upon my return, I identified them as *C. evermanni* but omitted to record them.

It would appear that this bird is found further south than accepted, though it is uncertain if this is only occasional or happens every year. The white rump (really croup or lower back) is very distinctive.

75, ABDUL REHMAN STREET,  
BOMBAY-3,  
April 10, 1970.

HUMAYUN ABDULALI

8. AN ADDITION TO THE LIST OF INDIAN BIRDS—THE  
MIGRATORY JUNGLE NIGHTJAR, *CAPRIMULGUS*  
*INDICUS JOTAKA* TEMM. & SCHL.

On the night of 28th April 1970, we left Port Blair, Andamans, by a police launch for Narcondam Island, 160 miles north-east. At about 5 a.m. the following morning, I came on deck and was surprised to see a dark dove-sized bird flying low over the water about 30 yards away. The white spots on the wings suggested a nightjar but